



# AGRICULTURAL NEWS OF THE WEEK

## FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF DALLAS

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### C H A N G E   I N   R I C E   S U P P O R T   A N N O U N C E D

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has announced an amendment to the price-support regulations for rice. The amendment makes price supports available to farmers who did not knowingly contribute to the overplanting of rice acreage allotments on farms. The new regulation applies only to areas where rice acreage allotments are determined on a producer basis. According to the USDA, the price-support regulations are being changed because of the heavy volume of rice being marketed without price-support protection, especially in Texas.

### F O R E I G N   G R A I N   I N S E C T   D I S C O V E R E D

An insect not found in this country before is damaging oats and corn in Michigan and Indiana. The insect - identified by the USDA as a cereal leaf beetle - has done serious damage in Europe for many years. Although the beetle attacks leaves of all cereals and some grasses, its favorite foods are oats, barley, and wheat.

### L A R G E   S U P P L I E S   O F   F A T S   A N D   O I L S

U. S. supplies of edible fats, oils, and oilseeds are expected to reach an all-time high during the 1962-63 marketing year, which will begin October 1. The Economic Research Service says that the supplies may total approximately 16.8 billion lbs. (oil equivalent), or nearly 6% more than the previous peak in 1961-62.

October 1 stocks of edible fats and oils (including oil equivalent of soybeans) probably will be around 2 billion lbs., which is about 50% above a year ago. Soybeans are expected to account for most of the gain in starting stocks, although butter supplies may be up considerably.

### R E A   L O A N S

The USDA recently announced that more than 240,000 rural people in the United States will receive their first Rural Electrification Administration-financed electric or dial telephone service as a result of the agency's fiscal 1962 loans. The REA-approved loans will enable local electric systems to provide service to 87,527 new rural consumers; the telephone loans will result in new or improved service (all dial) for 153,892 subscribers. In fiscal 1962, the REA approved 242 electric loans, totaling \$261.4 million. The cumulative total of loans approved by the 27-year-old electric program amounts to \$4.6 billion.

### S M A L L E R   M O H A I R   E X P O R T S

U. S. mohair exports during January-June 1962 totaled 7 million lbs., or 1.4 million lbs. less than in the first half of the preceding year, reports the Foreign Agricultural Service. Shipments to the United Kingdom - the major mohair market - are placed at 3.9 million lbs., which is about 11% less than in the corresponding months of 1961. Decreases in mohair exports to Japan, Canada, and the Netherlands also were reported.

### L I V E S T O C K

The cattle run at Fort Worth during the week ended Thursday, August 30, is placed at about 7,000, or 8% above a week ago but 35% below the corresponding period in 1961, according to the Agricultural Marketing Service. Trading on



slaughter steers was active, and closing prices were steady to 25¢ per cwt. higher than a week earlier. Good 895- to 1,045-lb. slaughter steers were quoted at \$24 to \$25.50 per cwt., and Utility and Commercial cows brought \$13.25 to \$15.50. Feeder steers weighing over 500 lbs. sold at prices which were steady to 50¢ higher than on the preceding Thursday, while quotations on other classes were mostly steady to 50¢ lower. Good 500- to 700-lb. feeder steers cleared at \$22.50 to \$26.

At an estimated 1,100, calf receipts reflected decreases of 21% from the previous week and 50% from a year earlier. Trading on slaughter calves was moderately active, and prices were steady to 50¢ per cwt. lower than at the previous week's close. Good grades of killing calves brought mainly \$23 to \$24 per cwt., and feeder steer calves sold at \$23 to \$27.

Hog receipts totaled approximately 1,400, or 100 more than in the preceding week but 600 fewer than a year ago. Closing prices were about steady to 50¢ per cwt. lower than a week ago, with the majority of the U. S. No. 1 through No. 3 Grades of 195- to 265-lb. butchers quoted at \$17.75 to \$18.50.

Sheep and lamb marketings of about 7,300 compared with 11,100 in the previous week and 5,500 during the corresponding period last year. Demand was broad each day, and trading was active. Thursday prices were fully steady with the preceding week's close; the bulk of the Good and Choice slaughter spring lambs brought \$17 to \$20 per cwt.

#### P O U L T R Y

During the week ended Friday, August 31, commercial broiler markets opened stronger in south Texas and steady in east Texas, reports the State Department of Agriculture. The market in south Texas was steady on Tuesday, while that in east Texas showed signs of weakening. At Friday's close, the east Texas market was steady, and the south Texas market was slightly weaker with the undertone in both areas unsettled. Trading ranged from normal to brisk, as was expected for the Labor Day holiday week end. Closing prices were 16.5¢ to 17¢ per lb. in south Texas and ranged from 15.9¢ to 16.1¢ in east Texas. During the corresponding period in 1961, the closing quotation in south Texas was 10.9¢, and the weighted average price in east Texas was 11.5¢ to 12¢.

No report was available for Monday, September 3, because of the Labor Day holiday.

	Area	Week ended August 25, 1962	Percent change from	
			Previous week	Comparable week, 1961
BROILER CHICK PLACEMENTS				
	Texas.....	2,190,000	-4	-7
	Louisiana..	415,000	-1	3
	22 states..	34,654,000	-1	2